

REMARKS

The Examiner objected to claims 21-24 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants greatfully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. In response, Applicants have amended claims 21 and 23 to include all of the limitations of the base claims and the intervening claims and therefore Applicants respectfully believe that claims 21 and 23 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 4-10 and 22 depend from claim 21 and claims 14-20 and 24 depend from claim 23, Applicants contend likewise that claims 4-10, 14-20, 22, and 24 are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 11-15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lindsay *et al.* (U.S. Pat. 6,677,778).

The Examiner rejected claims 7-10 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lindsay *et al.* in view of Martin *et al.* (U.S. Pat. 6,639,423).

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0457.

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